INCOMING TELEGRAM

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TELEGRAPH BRANCH

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Rec'd: August 21, 1950
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Info P SAM GER OLI CIA IE PA DCR

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 465, August 21, 4 p.m.

DEPARTMENT PASS PARIS, BRUSSELS, LONDON, FRANKFORT. SENT DEPARTMENT 465, REPEATED INFO PARIS 98, BRUSSELS 11, LONDON 103, FRANKFORT 76.

Yesterday's PRAVDA and IZVESTIYA and today's PRAVDA (IZVESTIYA does not appear Mondays) carry brief Tass items from Paris, Rome, London and The Hague on Murder Belgian Communist Party Chairman Julien Lahaut. Treatment mainly inform quotes or precis from Brussels correspondent TELEGRAF (Hauge), Reuters and AFP (which quotes DRAPEAU ROUGE and notes threatening resolution Belgian Politburo), and comment HUMANITE and UNITA.

Zhukov's usual Paris roundup on peace movement inter alia notes grief and indignation peace partisans Nice over "terroristic act Belgian Fascists". Claims last words Lahaut were "avenge me" which "engraved hearts each youthful peace fighter".

While no editorial comment has yet appeared Soviet press, line that almost certainly will be taken is that murder carried out by same elements which returned Leopold to throne, namely Fascist-reactionaries acting under instructions American imperialists. No doubt effort will be made to depict murder in pattern alleged repressive measures taken West Germany, France and Italy and as betraying fear Wall Street growing strength peace movement and popular indignation against remilitarization NAT nations. Murder certainly opportunity for Kremlin to charge lengths to which imperialists willing to go and one Communists can hardly fail to capitalized on.

KIRK

MJF:MSF

Note: Relayed to Paris, London, Brussels, Frankfort, 8/21, 1 p.m.

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